

First Congregational United Church of Christ,
Ypsilanti
“Follow Me”



<http://www.pageresource.com/wallpapers/12843/image-free-images-birds-flowers-hd-wallpaper.html>

No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey, you're welcome here.

July 19, 2015

10:00 am

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



*An open and affirming community
committed to peace and justice*

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:

NCH (Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")
Sing! (Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)
ES (Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

*All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak
with the Pastor or any member of the Community.*

Prelude

Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn**

"Like A Healing Stream"

73 SING - Steve McGhee

Welcome

Wayne Burling

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.

We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

****Please rise in body or spirit as you are able***

Announcements

Wayne Burling

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ring the Bell

***Hymn**

"Sing Praise! Sing Free! Sing for Joy!"

16 ES

Call to Worship (Unison)

Wayne Burling

One: Come away and rest for a while.
Leave behind your busyness to be fully present to God.

Many: **We have come for relief from life's turmoil.**
God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep.

One: God's steadfast love surrounds us here.
We are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness.

Many: **This is God's house and we are God's children.**
God invites us to feel at home in this place.

One: We have a covenant with our Creator.
This is a time for renewal of our promises.

Many: **God calls for righteousness and justice.**
God offers us goodness and mercy all our days.
Amen.

— Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading	Psalms 23 (Psalter)	Steve McGhee/Carol Hall
-----------------------	---------------------	-------------------------

Hymn	"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"	136 NCH
------	--	---------

Children's Time	<i>children are invited to come forward</i>
-----------------	---

New Testament Reading	Mark 6:30-34	Wayne Burling
-----------------------	--------------	---------------

Sermon	"The Flock Comes Together"	Carol Hall
--------	----------------------------	------------

*Hymn	"Spirit"	45 ES
-------	----------	-------

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People	Carol Hall
-----------------------	------------

*All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version

Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

**Forgive us for keeping silent in the face of injustice,
and for burying our dreams,
for not sharing bread and cup, love and the land, among us now.
Don't let us fall into the temptation of shutting the door through fear,
of resigning ourselves to hunger and injustice,
of taking up the same arms as the enemy.
But deliver us from evil.**

**Give us the perseverance and the solidarity to look for love,
even if the path has not yet been trodden,
even if we fall;
so we shall have known your Realm,
which is being built for ever and ever.**

*– Central American Lord's Prayer, adapted
From Bread for Tomorrow: Prayers for the Church Year*

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison)

Carol Hall

We bring a portion of all God entrusts to us to be used, not for our pet projects, but for the mission of the church, in this community, throughout our land and around the world. We express our gratitude for the gift of Jesus Christ and for the peace we know deep within when we become disciples and apostles. May we follow the model of God's generosity. Amen.

Offertory

Steve McGhee

***Doxology**

"Take My Gifts"

562 NCH

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!*

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Wayne Burling

Receive our best, gracious God, as we offer ourselves along with these tokens of thanks. Establish your rule in our midst so we may proclaim your reign in the world. Send us where you need us most. Use our gifts to reduce alienation and to build community. Teach us to live as sisters and brothers who find you in one another and respond in love to each other's needs. Amen.

— Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure**

"We Are Called To Follow Jesus"

36 ES

***Benediction**

Carol Hall

One: Live with hope, for God is with us every day.

Live in peace, for God turns us from hostility.

Many: **We are one in Christ.**

We are one in the Spirit who creates community.

One: Renew your covenant vows with God and people.

Celebrate the oneness of humanity in Christ.

Many: **We seek to recognize the needs around us.**

**We commit ourselves to help as we have covenanted with God,
for as long as we have strength.**

Amen.

— Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

Postlude

Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace

Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: www.ypsiucc.com



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Our Volunteers	Today: July 19 th	Next Sunday: July 26 th
Usher	Marty Kleino	Marty Kleino
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Wayne Burling	Wayne Burling
Worship Set-up	Glenda Horvath	Donna Eyster
Acolyte	Hunter Turner	Desarye Penn
Friendship Time	Glenda Horvath	Barb Garland

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held July 21st at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.

NEXT MEETING OF THE OPEN AND AFFIRMING COALITION: Our next meeting will be held at St. John's UCC in Grand Rapids on August 1st, 2015 10:00 am – 12:00 noon.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's address: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights***, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WICIR> .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition**, or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website <http://www.mi-onc.org> or on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/>

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.ypsiucc.org> Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913>.

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU RE-REGISTERED WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card **MUST** register. **Last Year's registration expires May 1st** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.
Go to www.kroger.com and click "REGISTER". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.